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Commissioner for PatentsApplication No. 09/689,732A3
corrected

surrounding the guiding slot 38 in which the guide member 36 is engaged, thereby retaining the auxiliary component 34 to the base plate 30, while allowing relative movement therebetween.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4

The extension card 54 is rigidly mounted to the first plate 34a of the auxiliary component 34 for conjoint movement therewith. The extension card 54 has an electronic circuitry mounted thereon and is provided with a card mating edge 56 defining recesses 58 provided with pins configured and sized to be matingly and operationally engageable with the associated connector or connection sockets 20 for electronic connection therewith.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 13 and 23 as follows:

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B1

1. (amended) A system for removably connecting a circuit card to a connector of an electronic device, comprising a support structure for loading a circuit card into an electronic device, said circuit card being supported by said support structure and displaceable relative thereto, said support structure being adapted to be slidably inserted along a first axis within the electronic device to a first position, and an actuator mounted to said support structure for selectively displacing the circuit card relative to the support structure along a second axis from said first position to a connection position of the circuit card where a connection portion of the circuit card is operatively coupled to the connector of the electronic device, and from said connection position to a disconnection position wherein the connection portion of the circuit card is disengaged from the associated connector of the electronic device.

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8. (amended)

A system as defined in claim 7, wherein slotted guides are defined in said intermediate member, and wherein retaining means are provided for mounting said intermediate member to said sliding member, said retaining means being constrained to move in said slotted guides, thereby retaining said intermediate and sliding members together while allowing relative movements therebetween.

13. (amended)

A method of connecting a circuit card to an associated connector of a substrate, comprising the steps of: mounting the circuit card to a support structure displaceable relative thereto, guiding said support structure with said circuit card mounted thereon in a first direction along a card path to a first position relative to said substrate, and displacing said circuit card relative to the support structure from said first position to a connection position, wherein the card connector of the circuit card is operatively coupled to the associated connector of the substrate.

23. (amended)

A support structure as defined in claim 22, wherein slotted guides are defined in said intermediate member and wherein retaining means are provided for mounting said intermediate member to said sliding member, said retaining means being constrained to move in said slotted guides, thereby retaining said mounting and sliding members together while allowing relative movements therebetween.